



Sunday May 15, 2022
Faith and Finances Part-1: God, Our Provider

The Bible has a lot to say, in both Testaments, on material things, finances and how we relate to earthly possessions, as people who have faith in God.

We will do a short two-part sermon series on Faith and Finances. Our purpose in these sermons is to encourage and minister specifically to those who may be facing challenges in finances. So, we are not going to be answering all the theological questions and arguments about material possessions, finances, etc. We will have to leave that for another time.

Let's all declare this together:

GOD IS MY PROVIDER AND HE IS THE SOURCE OF MY TOTAL SUPPLY

We are familiar with one of the covenant names of God: Jehovah-Jireh, meaning the Lord will provide, or the Lord will see to that need.

The Bible teaches us that God will supply for all of our needs according to His riches in glory, through Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

- He provides **according to** what He has, and not what we have.
- He provides **for all of our needs**, not just a few of our needs – all needs in all spheres of our life, in all seasons and in all situations of life.
- He provides **through Jesus Christ**, because of Jesus Christ, and in the same expressions of mercy and grace by which He gave Jesus to us.

GOD OUR PROVIDER DESIGNED WORK

God is our Source and He uses different ways to deliver His supply into our lives.

- He uses our work and results of our efforts.
- He uses other people. As people we give to each other and bless each other.
- He may use other unexpected channels, even miraculous ways. (More on this later).

Let's talk a little bit about work.



In the Garden of Eden, before the Fall, Adam was given work to do.

Genesis 2:15

Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

The New Testament instructs us as believers to work with our own hands

1 Thessalonians 4:11

that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you,

2 Thessalonians 3:12

Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.

Ephesians 4:28

Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

We can infer from Scripture, that **GOD DESIGNED WORK AS AN EXPRESSION OF STEWARDSHIP, CREATIVITY, AND MULTIPLICATION** (wealth creation).

Stewardship – you put to good use the knowledge, skills, and resources you have.

Creativity – you create new things to address needs, resolve problems and bless people.

Multiplication – you bring about increase both for yourself and for others to benefit, e.g. a farmer benefits himself and many other by his produce, businesses provide employment, etc.

So as we speak of God's provision and supply into our lives, look at your WORK as one of those ways through which God is providing for you. Be thankful to Him for the WORK you can do and do it well. View your work as an expression of stewardship, creativity, and multiplication.

GOD OUR PROVIDER BLESSES OUR WORK

As we work, viewing our work as an expression of stewardship, creativity and multiplication – God has promised to bless our work.



Deuteronomy 28:12

The LORD will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.

What would be the obvious outcome of God's blessing? Proverbs states it like this:

Proverbs 10:22

The blessing of the LORD makes one rich, And He adds no sorrow with it.

Part of His blessing upon our work is that we get to enjoy the work of our hands, it will bring us happiness and well-being.

Psalms 128:1-2

1 Blessed is every one who fears the LORD, Who walks in His ways.

2 When you eat the labor of your hands, You shall be happy, and it shall be well with you.

Talking about the Millennial reign of Christ, Isaiah prophesied:

Isaiah 65:21-22

21 They shall build houses and inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

22 They shall not build and another inhabit; They shall not plant and another eat; For as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, And My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

You will build and inhabit. You will plant and eat. You will enjoy the work of your hands. This is the Lord's blessing. As New Covenant believers we have a foretaste of the things of the Kingdom to come (Hebrews 6:5).

NOTE:

Some people may argue that all the Scriptures we have quoted above are from the Old Testament and so do not agree with what we may have stated. A) Has God changed across the Testament? B) One example. We have the use of musical instruments in worship only in the Old Testament and nowhere in the Gospels or Epistles. We only see musical instruments used in worship in Revelation. Does that mean we infer that the New Testament Church should not use musical instruments in worship, and we wait till we get to heaven to use musical instruments in worship? Did the God who welcomed worship with musical instrument in the Old Testament, suddenly decide He did not want



to be worshipped with musical instruments in the New Testament? That would be an erroneous conclusion, knowing that God said, He never changes (Malachi 3:6).

GOD OUR PROVIDER WORKS MIRACLES OF PROVISION

While our work, and God's blessing upon our work is the usual or normal way for God's supply and provision to come into our lives, we must also be open to miracles of provision. By this we mean that God does beyond the norm – unusual, and unexpected ways through which God provides. We must remain open, welcome, and even believe God to do these. Here are a few examples from Scripture:

- Supernatural provision of water out of a rock
- Supernatural provision of manna and quail
- Supernatural food delivery to the prophet Elijah
- Multiplying the last portion of a widow's flour and oil to sustain them through famine
- Multiplying the last portion of oil to cancel a widow's debt
- Turning water to wine to meet the need in a marriage feast
- Supernatural catch of fish in the morning, after a fruitless night of work
- Supernatural coin in the mouth of a fish
- Multiplying bread and fish to feed thousands

THE GOD OF THE BIBLE IS THE GOD OF TODAY

GOD STILL WORKS MIRACLES OF PROVISION AND SUPERNATURAL SUPPLY

EXPECT GOD TO DO SO TODAY

WE MUST EXERCISE FAITH TO RECEIVE HIS MIRACLES OF PROVISION

Jesus spoke a lot about material things, earthly possessions, etc. In Matthew 6:25-33, He spoke about food, clothing, future, and all things we have need of. He taught us to have faith in God instead of worrying about these material things, and assured us that all these things will be added to us.

We are called to walk by faith. That is all areas of life we operate from a place of faith in God. This includes work, material things, receiving provision, increase, blessing, promotion, etc. (More on this next week).

Mark 11:24



Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

We exercise faith for provision just as we exercise faith in God for other matters in life.

NOTE:

We believe that God does bless His people in all areas of life, including materially and financially. We see this throughout the Bible. It is not wrong to pray asking God to bless us, or to exercise faith in God to receive His provision and blessings materially or financially. We all need to do so. We also see that people of faith, had and managed large amount of wealth and riches and it did not destroy their faith (e.g. Abraham, David, etc.). So, faith and finances do not have to enemies. However, IF/WHEN **the purpose of faith** becomes solely to benefit materially and financially, or great faith is **incorrectly equated** to great finances, then faith has been misplaced. This is where some in the church have gone wrong - "who suppose that godliness is a means of gain" (1 Timothy 6:5). These are errors in the "prosperity gospel" that we must avoid.

SALVATION CALL

If you ask, does God love me? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 3:16, Romans 5:8

If you ask, how can I have my sins forgiven? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 10:43; 1 John 2:2,12

If you ask, what is the way to God? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 14:6

If you ask, how can I become a child of God? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 1:12

If you ask, where can I find salvation? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 4:12

If you ask, what must I do to experience salvation? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 16:30-31

As an act of your own free choice, we invite you to make this decision to follow Jesus.

SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME

Minister as the Spirit leads



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Sunday May 15, 2022
Faith and Finances Part-1: God, Our Provider

There is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our [sermons page](#). Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture reference: *Genesis 2:15; 1 Thessalonians 4:11; Deuteronomy 28:12; Proverbs 10:22*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1, God is our Source, and yet God has designed work as a way to bring provision into our lives. How do we practically hold these two together, recognizing God as our Source of supply, and not get distracted into thinking that our work (skills, abilities, employer) is our source?

2, We stated that God designed work as an expression of stewardship, creativity, and multiplication. We did not provide Scriptural references to back these up (for the sake of



sermon brevity). How does God as our Source, and godly motivation inspire us to excellence in stewardship, creativity and multiplication at work?

3, God blesses us at work and also works miraculous provision to supply/provide for us. Share some of the blessings and miraculous provision you have experienced.

If time permits, each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

1, families to be protected and strengthened

2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.

3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.

Close by thanking God together.



USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>

SERMON OUTLINE

God our Provider is the Source of our total supply. God uses different ways to deliver His supply into our lives. God designed work as one of the ways He would supply for us. He designed work as an expression of stewardship, creativity, and multiplication. As we work, viewing our work as an expression of stewardship, creativity, and multiplication – God has promised to bless our work. The blessing of the Lord brings increase. Part of His blessing upon our work is that we get to enjoy the work of our hands, it will bring us happiness and well-being. God also works miracles of provision. While our work, and God's blessing upon our work is the usual or normal way for God's supply and provision to come into our lives, we must also be open to miracles of provision. By this we mean that God does beyond the norm – unusual, and unexpected ways through which God provides. We must remain open, welcome, and even believe God to do these.

KEYWORDS :

faith and finances, workplace, financial miracles, divine provision, material blessings, Jehovah Jireh, sermon, sermons, sermon notes, sermon outline, free sermon notes, free sermon outlines, Bible study resources



REFERENCES/CITATIONS

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